



PRESS RELEASE

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Subject: Montana Wheat and Barley Committee Director Appointed

GREAT FALLS, Mont. -- Governor Brian Schweitzer has appointed Wibaux small grains producer Don Chaffee to the Montana Wheat and Barley Committee Board of Directors.

The committee administers the check-off funds that wheat and barley producers in Montana assess themselves to promote research and develop foreign and domestic markets. The assessment currently is one and a quarter cents on each bushel of wheat and two cents per hundredweight on barley.

Chaffee will represent producers in District 7, which encompasses 12 counties: Carter, Custer, Dawson, Fallon, Garfield, McCone, Powder River, Prairie, Richland, Rosebud, Treasure and Wibaux. He joins six other directors and three ex-officio members on the board.

Born in Beach, North Dakota, Chaffee graduated from Wibaux High School and Montana State University with degrees in math and statistics. He has served on the Wibaux Conservation District board for 12 years. He has two daughters, Lauren, 21, and Katelyn, 17.

Chaffee says representing farmers in the southeastern corner of Montana offers a unique challenge with the distances and diversity of interests involved, one he feels confident he can meet. Chaffee says he is excited about his new role and eager to serve his fellow producers.

Chaffee's term expires in 2008. He replaces Robert Candee, Richey, who resigned from the board.